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PART-I

Notifications, Orders and Declarations by Haryana Government

STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, HARYANA
NIRVACHAN SADAN, PLOT NO. 2, SECTOR – 17, PANCHKULA – 134109

Notification

The 13th April, 2026

No. SEC/1ME/2026/786.— In exercise of the power vested under clause (1) of the Article 243ZA of the Constitution of India, Section 9 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 and Rule 21(1) of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994 and all other powers enabled in this behalf, I, Devinder Singh Kalyan, State Election Commissioner, Haryana, hereby prescribe the following election schedule for conduct of General Elections to the seats of Mayors and Members of all the wards of Municipal Corporation, Ambala, Panchkula and Sonepat.

(1)	Date on which notice shall be published/posted by the Returning Officer for inviting nominations under Rule 22.	15.04.2026 (Wednesday)
(2)	Dates on which Nomination papers shall be presented and pasted under Rule 21(2)(i) &(ii).	21.04.2026 (Tuesday) to 25.04.2026 (Saturday) 11.00 A.M. to 03.00 P.M.
(3)	Date on which the nomination papers shall be scrutinized under Rule 21(2)(iii).	27.04.2026 (Monday) 11.30 A.M. onwards
(4)	Last date for withdrawal of candidature under Rule 21(2)(vi)	28.04.2026 (Tuesday) Between 11.00 A.M to 3.00 P.M.
(5)	Date on which symbols shall be allotted to the contesting candidates	28.04.2026 (Tuesday) after 3.00 P.M.
(6)	Date on which the list of contesting candidates shall be posted under Rule 21(2)(vii)	28.04.2026 (Tuesday)
(7)	Date on which list of polling stations shall be pasted under Rule 21(2)(viii)	28.04.2026 (Tuesday)
(8)	Date on which poll shall be held under Rule 21(2)(ix)	**10.05.2026 (Sunday)**
(9)	Re-poll, if any	12.05.2026 (Tuesday)
(10)	Timing of the poll	8.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M.

(11)	Date, time and place on which the votes polled shall be counted	On **13.05.2026 (Wednesday) at 8.00 A.M.** at the place(s) specified by the Deputy Commissioner concerned
(12)	Date on which the election result shall be declared	Immediately after the completion of counting

2. I, Devinder Singh Kalyan, State Election Commissioner, Haryana in exercise of the powers vested under Rule 21(3) & (4) of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, authorize the Deputy Commissioners concerned to designate Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers who shall be the officers of the Government for the conduct of the General Elections of the seats of Mayors and Members of all the wards of Municipal Corporation, Ambala, Panchkula and Sonepat.

3. The concerned Returning Officer shall publish a notice of the above election programme on **15.04.2026** at his/her office, office of the Deputy Commissioner and Municipal Corporation concerned and at such other conspicuous places in the area of the Municipal Corporation, as determined by him/her in this behalf under Rule 22 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994. During the nomination period, information regarding the nomination papers must be hosted on the website of the District Administration and Municipal Corporation concerned latest by 4.00 P.M. every day after the receipt of nomination(s).

4. I further direct that after scrutiny of nomination papers under Rule 28 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994 and withdrawal of candidature under Rule 29 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, the Returning Officer shall prepare a list of contesting candidates under Rule 31 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, in Hindi and English. A list of nominations received, nominations rejected, nominations withdrawn and contesting candidates etc. with all relevant details shall be published at every stage and the same must be posted at some conspicuous places and in the office of the concerned Returning Officer and in the office of Municipal Corporation concerned.

5. Under Section 23A of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 read with Rule 50 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, I, hereby specify that the voting shall be by giving and recording of votes by Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) in the general elections of Municipal Corporation concerned.

6. It is further directed that the option "None of the above (NOTA)" on EVMs/Ballot papers" shall be implemented in the said election. The State Election Commission, Haryana has passed fresh orders in this respect on 07.04.2026. The salient features of these orders are as under:

(i) NOTA has the same effect as not voting for any candidate under the earlier provisions of rule 70M of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994. Therefore, even if, in any extreme case, the number of votes against NOTA is more than the number of votes secured by the candidates, the candidate who secures the largest number of votes among the contesting candidates shall be declared to be elected.

(ii) Under rule 25 (2) of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, the total number of votes polled by all the contesting candidates is to be taken into account for calculating the one-eighth of votes polled by individual candidates for return of security deposit. As the votes polled against the NOTA option cannot be treated as valid votes, the same is not to be taken into account for calculating the total valid votes polled by the contesting candidates for the purpose of return of, security deposit.

7. The State Election Commission, Haryana further directs to print photographs of the contesting candidates on the ballot papers alongwith other particulars to be displayed on the balloting unit of EVMs and in the tender ballot papers in addition to the existing particulars. Photograph of the candidate shall be printed in the panel and shall appear on the right side of the name in between the name and symbol of the candidate. The size of the photograph to be printed on the ballot paper shall be 2 cm in breadth and 2.5 cm in height. The ballot paper for the post of Mayor of Municipal Corporation shall be of pink colour and for Members shall be of white colour.

8. It is further directed that all voters of the respective area who have been issued the Electoral Photo Identity Cards for the State Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha Elections and whose Electoral Photo Identity Card (EPIC) Numbers have been mentioned in case of the Municipal Voters list also, shall have to produce these cards to exercise their franchise at the polling stations for voting, which is scheduled to take place on **10.05.2026.** In case EPIC of a voter is not available then he/she may also be allowed to give his/her vote on production of any of the following photo identity papers:–

i.	Aadhar Card issued by UIDAI
ii.	Parivaar Pehchan Patra (PPP)

iii.	Driving License,
iv.	Income Tax PAN Card,
v.	Service Identity Card issued to employees by Central/State Government Offices, Public Sector Undertakings, Local Bodies or other public Limited Company,
vi.	Pass Book of an account, having photograph, opened in a scheduled Bank or post office,
vii.	Freedom Fighter Identity Card having photograph,
viii.	SC/ST/OBC certificate having photograph, issued by competent authority,
ix.	Certificate of Physical Handicap having photograph issued by the Competent Authority,
x.	Arms License having photograph,
xi.	Job Cards with photograph issued under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme, MGNREGA etc.
xii.	Property documents with photographs such as Pattas, Registered Deeds etc.,
xiii.	Pension Documents such as Ex-Servicemen Pension Book/Pension Payment Order, Ex-Servicemen's Widow/Dependent Certificate, Old Age Pension Order, Widow Pension Order, with photograph,
xiv.	Health Insurance Scheme Smart Cards with Photograph,
xv.	Ration Cards or any other similar documents establishing the identity of the electors to the satisfaction of the Presiding Officer, having photograph.
xvi.	Passport

9. It is further directed to make the following security arrangements for the conduct of free, fair and peaceful elections:-

i. Adequate police personnel shall be deployed at the polling stations, counting centers for security and maintenance of law and order to ensure free, fair and peaceful election.

ii. Daily law and order report shall be sent to the State Election Commission till the election process is completed.

iii. A copy of the plan for deployment of Executive Magistrates, Sector Magistrate and police personnel must also be sent to the Commission in time.

10. In order to curb undesirable and illegal activities, the Commission hereby imposes restriction to hire or procure not more than five vehicles or vessels by the candidate contesting for the post of Mayor and two vehicles by the contesting candidate for the seat of Member of a Municipal Corporation, whether on payment or otherwise, for use by a contesting candidate himself/herself or his/her agents or his/her supporters on the day of poll during the election. It is also stated that:-

i. The expression "Vehicle" means any vehicle used or capable of being used for the purpose of road transport whether propelled by mechanical/electrical power or otherwise and whether used for drawing other vehicle or otherwise.

ii. The contesting candidates shall be issued permits as per proforma prescribed by the Commission appended herewith. The permits shall be issued on application to the contesting candidates at least two days before the day of poll.

iii. The District Administration shall keep a close watch on the vehicles used by persons accompanying the contesting candidates and their supporters to prevent any likely mischief, including criminal activities such as carrying of illegal arms and weapons. If any of these vehicles, either of a contesting candidate or a private owner, is found to be involved in any such act or for carting anti-social elements with the intention to intimidate or create terror in the mind of voters, it shall be the duty of local administration to impound such vehicles and not to release them till the process of elections is completed. In addition, appropriate legal action against the owner and or occupant/occupants of such vehicle(s) and the candidate who is/are involved in such illegal activities shall also be taken as per law.

iv. The District Administration shall launch a drive for checking of vehicles immediately upon announcement of the elections and shall continue the drive till completion of the election process.

v. All recognized National/State Political Parties in the state of Haryana and all contesting candidates or their agents authorized by them must be made aware of these guidelines/instructions.

vi. Permit for use of vehicles by contesting candidates during election shall be issued in the following proforma:-

PROFORMA

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ELECTIONS, 2026

Permit No. _____

Municipal Corporation _____

Name of Candidate _____

Contesting the election of *Mayor **or** Member from Ward No. _____

Vehicle Number _____

Returning Officer Seal

*Strike out the inappropriate alternative

11. In view of the provisions of rule 14 A of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules, 1994, after issuance of programme for election of Municipal Corporations, if any person whose name is not included in the ward wise electoral roll of concerned Municipal Corporation finally published, but his/her name exists in the relevant part of the electoral roll of the Legislative Assembly constituency, he/she may apply (in Form "A") to the Returning Officer for the inclusion of his/her name in the electoral rolls of concerned Municipal Corporation till the last date of filing nomination. Returning Officer shall be the competent authority for inclusion of such name(s) in the electoral roll from the issuance of election programme till the last date of filing of nomination. The decision taken by the Returning Officer on such applications shall be final. If the name of any applicant has been included in the electoral roll of any ward of the concerned Municipal Corporation and he/she intends to contest the election, he/she shall be allowed to file his/her nomination. No amendment, transposition or deletion of any entry in the electoral roll shall be made and no direction for inclusion of a name in the electoral roll of any ward shall be given, after the last date for filing of nominations for an election in that Municipal Corporation.

12. The Deputy Commissioner concerned shall ensure that the Voter Slips should be distributed to each and every voter atleast 3 days before the date of poll, instructions in this regards has been issued vide letter **No. SEC/2ME/2026/632-643 dated 01.04.2026** the same shall be complied with meticulously.

13. The State Election Commission further directs that the guidelines pertaining to **"facilitation of voters at polling stations on polling day**" issued vide No. SEC/1ME/2021/1238-1281 dated 11.06.2021 may be complied with meticulously during the general elections of the Municipal Corporations.

14. Guidelines pertaining to "Publication of criminal antecedents" issued vide No. SEC/1ME/2021/3057-3088 dated 17.08.2021 shall be complied with meticulously during general elections of the Municipal Corporations. Some of the major guidelines to be followed at the time of general elections are hereunder:–

(a) Candidates who have criminal cases against them, either pending or in which the candidate has been convicted, shall publish a declaration about such cases, for wide publicity, in two newspapers (at least one Hindi and one English) having wide circulation in the concerned municipal area. The declaration is required to be published (in prescribed Format C-1) at least on three different dates from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidatures and upto two days before the date of poll.

(b) Candidates with criminal cases are also required to publish the above declaration on local TV channels or cable networks (If locally available) on three different dates during the above mentioned period and upto 48 hours ending with the hour fixed for conclusion of poll.

(c) The Returning Officer shall give a written reminder (in prescribed Format C-2) about the directions given herein for publishing declaration about the criminal cases in newspapers and local TV channels or cable networks (if locally available) for wide publicity to all candidates who have criminal cases as per the declaration in items (5) and (6) of Form 1C. The candidates shall submit copies of the newspapers in which their declaration in this regard was published to the Deputy Commissioner or an officer authorized by the State Election Commission, alongwith their account of election expenses.

(d) In the case of candidates with criminal cases set up by political parties, whether recognized parties or registered un-recognized parties, such candidates are required to declare before the Returning Officer concerned that they have informed their political party about the criminal cases against them.

(e) Recognized Political parties and registered un-recognized parties, which set up candidates with criminal cases, either pending or of past conviction, are required to publish declaration (in prescribed Format C-3) giving details in this regard on their website as well as in local TV channels or cable networks (if locally available) and at least two newspapers (one Hindi and one English) having wide circulation in the municipal area concerned.

(f) Recognized Political parties and registered un-recognized parties, which set up candidates with criminal cases shall have to submit a report to the Deputy Commissioner concerned stating that they have fulfilled the requirements of the directions, and shall enclose paper cutting containing declaration published by the party in this respect. This shall be done within 30 days of completion of election.

15. Information pertaining to criminal antecedents of the contesting candidates obtained in the prescribed forms alongwith nomination paper must also be hosted on the official website of district administration and the same shall remain hosted on the website till the completion of next general election of that municipal body. The directions in this respect given in the Commission's letter No. SEC/1ME/2017/1117-38 dated 2nd June, 2017 must be meticulously followed.

16. The expenditure limit to be incurred by the contesting candidate or his/her authorized election agent(s) for the election of Mayor and Member of the Municipal Corporation must be brought to the notice of all contesting candidates.

Mayor	**Member**
Rs. 30,00,000/-	Rs. 7,50,000/-

17. Re-poll, if any required, shall be held on **12.05.2026** and counting of votes shall be held on **13.05.2026 at 8.00 A.M**. at the place(s) specified by the Deputy Commissioner concerned. The details (Accounts) of votes polled at each polling station shall be prepared in Part-II of Form 17 and forwarded to the Returning Officer concerned for consolidation in Form 8, mentioning therein the total number of valid votes polled in favour of each candidate on each polling station and declare the candidate, who is found to have obtained the largest number of votes, as elected Mayor of Municipal Corporation concerned and Member of respective ward.

18. After declaration of result of elections under Rule 63, the Returning Officer shall forthwith post a copy of return (i.e. Form 8- Consolidation of account of the counted ballot papers) at a conspicuous place in his office and send a copy thereof to the Deputy Commissioner, who shall forward immediately but not later than three days, the name of the elected candidate to the State Election Commission, Haryana for notification in the official gazette. The Deputy Commissioner shall ensure that the names and other particulars of the elected candidate should be the same as are recorded in the nomination paper.

19. All contesting candidates are required to maintain account of election expenditure and submit the same within 30 days from the date of declaration of the result of the election to the Deputy Commissioner or an officer authorized by the State Election Commission, failing which the defaulting candidate shall be liable to be disqualified under Section 8E of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 and Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Expenditure (Maintenance and submission of accounts), Order, 2018, for a period of five years from the date of issue of such order.

DEVINDER SINGH KALYAN,
State Election Commissioner, Haryana.

12519—C.S.—H.G.P., Pkl.